

# FOO

I have no name, no title;  
No, not that name was given me at the font. *Shakesp. R. II.*  
FO'NTANEL. *n. f.* [*fontanelle*, French.] An issue; a discharge opened in the body.  
A person plethorick, subject to hot defluxions, was advised to a fontanel in her arm. *Wifeman of Infirmary.*  
FO'NTANGE. *n. f.* [from the name of the first wearer.] A knot of ribbons on the top of the head-dress. Out of use.  
These old fashioned fontanges rose an ell above the head: they were pointed like steeples, and had long loose pieces of crape, which were fringed, and hung down their backs. *Addis.*  
FOOD. *n. f.* [*foode*, Sax. *voeden*, Dut. to feed; *feed*, Scott.]  
1. Victuals; provision for the mouth.  
On my knees I beg,  
That you'll vouchsafe me raiment, bed, and food. *Shakesp. Much food is in the tillage of the poor. Prov. xiii. 23.*  
Under whose lowly roof thou halt vouchsaf'd  
To enter, and these earthly fruits to taste;  
Food not of angels, yet accepted so,  
As that more willingly thou couldst not seem  
At heav'n's high feasts to have fed. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*  
They give us food, which may with nectar vie,  
And wax that does the absent sun supply. *Waller.*  
2. Any thing that nourishes.  
Give me some musick: musick, moody food  
Of us that trade in love. *Shakesp. Antony and Cleopatra.*  
O dear son Edgar,  
The food of thy abused father's wrath,  
Might I but live to see thee in my touch,  
I'd lay, I had eyes again. *Shakesp. King Lear.*  
FOODFUL. *adj.* [*food* and *full*.] Fruitful; full of food; plentiful.  
There Titius was to see, who took his birth  
From heav'n, his nursing from the foodful earth. *Dryden.*  
FOODY. *adj.* [from *food*.] Eatable; fit for food.  
To vessels, wine she drew;  
And into well sew'd sacks pour'd foody meal. *Chapman.*  
FOOL. *n. f.* [*fool*, Welsh; *fol*, Islandick; *fol*, French.]  
1. One whom nature has denied reason; a natural; an idiot.  
Dost thou call me fool, boy?  
—All thy other titles thou hast given away that thou wast born with. *Shakesp. King Lear.*  
The fool multitude, that chuse by show,  
Not learning more than the fond eye doth teach,  
Which pry not to the interior. *Shak. Merchant of Venice.*  
It may be asked, whether the eldest son, being a fool, shall inherit paternal power before the younger, a wise man. *Locke.*  
He thanks his stars he was not born a fool. *Pope.*  
2. [In Scripture.] A wicked man.  
The fool hath said in his heart there is no God. *Pf. xiv. 1.*  
3. A term of indignity and reproach.  
To be thought knowing, you must first put the fool upon all mankind. *Dryden's Juvenal, Preface.*  
4. One who counterfeits folly; a buffoon; a jester.  
Where's my knave, my fool? Go you, and call my fool hither. *Shakesp. King Lear.*  
I scorn, although their drudge, to be their fool or jester. *Milt.*  
If this disguise fit not naturally on to grave a person, yet it may become him better than that fool's coat. *Denham.*  
5. To play the fool. To play pranks like a hired jester; to jest; to make sport.  
Returning where I left his armour, found another instead thereof, and armed myself therein to play the fool. *Sidney.*  
6. To play the fool. To act like one void of common understanding.  
Well, thus we play the fools with the time,  
And the spirits of the wife fit in the clouds  
And mock us. *Shakesp. Henry IV. p. ii.*  
Is it worth the name of freedom to be at liberty to play the fool, and draw shame and misery upon a man's self? *Locke.*  
7. To make a fool. To disappoint; to defeat.  
'Twere as good a deed as to drink when a man's a-hungry, to challenge him to the field, and then to break promise with him, and make a fool of him. *Shakesp. Twelfth Night.*  
To fool. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To trifle; to toy; to play; to idle; to sport.  
I, in this kind of merry fooling, am nothing to you; so you may continue and laugh at nothing still. *Shakesp. Tempest.*  
Fool not; for all may have,  
If they dare try, a glorious life, a grave. *Herbert.*  
If you have the luck to be court-fools, those that have either wit or honesty, you may fool withal, and spare not. *Denham.*  
It must be an industrious youth that provides against age; and he that fools away the one, must either beg or starve in the other. *L'Estrange.*  
He must be happy that knows the true measures of fooling.  
Is this a time for fooling? *Dryden's Spanish Fryar.*  
To fool. *v. a.*  
1. To treat with contempt; to disappoint; to frustrate; to defeat.  
2. To treat with contempt; to disappoint; to frustrate; to defeat.

# FOO

And shall it in more shame be further spoken,  
That you are fool'd, discarded, and shoo'd off? *Shak. H. IV.*  
If it be you that stir these daughters hearts  
Against their father, fool me not so much  
To bear it tamely. *Shakesp. King Lear.*  
When I am read, thou feign'st a weak applause,  
As if thou wert my friend, but lackest a cause:  
This but thy judgment fools; the other way  
Would both thy folly and thy spite betray. *Ben. Jonson.*  
Him over-weening  
To over-reach; but with the serpent meeting,  
Fool'd and beguill'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. x.*  
If men loved to be deceived and fooled about their spiritual estate, they cannot take a surer course than by taking their neighbour's word for that, which can be known only from their own heart. *South's Sermon.*  
When I consider life, 'tis all a cheat;  
For fool'd with hope, men favour the deceit.  
I'm tir'd with waiting for this chemick gold,  
Which fools us young, and beggars us when old. *Dryden.*  
I would advise this blinded set of men not to give credit to those, by whom they have been so often fool'd and imposed upon. *Addison's Freeholder, No. 7.*  
2. To infatuate.  
It were an handsome plot,  
But full of difficulties, and uncertain;  
And he's so fool'd with downright honesty,  
He'll ne'er believe it. *Denham's Sophy.*  
A long and eternal adieu to all unlawful pleasures: I will no longer be fool'd or imposed upon by them. *Calamy's Sermon.*  
A boor of Holland, whose cares of growing still richer and richer, perhaps fool him so far as to make him enjoy less in his riches than others in poverty. *Temple.*  
3. To cheat; as, to fool one of his money.  
FOOL'BORN. *adj.* [*fool* and *born*.] Foolish from the birth.  
Reply not to me with a foolborn jest. *Shakesp. Henry IV.*  
FOOL'ERY. *n. f.* [from *fool*.]  
1. Habitual folly.  
Folly, fir, does walk about the orb like the sun; it shines every where: I would be sorry, fir, but the fool should be as oft with your master as with my mistress. *Shak. Twelfth Night.*  
2. An act of folly; trifling practice.  
It is mere foolery to multiply distinct particulars in treating of things, where the difference lies only in words. *Watts.*  
3. Object of folly.  
That Pythagoras, Plato, or Orpheus believed in any of these fooleries, it cannot be suspected. *Raleigh's History.*  
We are transported with fooleries, which, if we understood, we should despise. *L'Estrange's Fables.*  
FOOL'ERY. *adj.* [*fool* and *happy*.] Lucky without contrivance or judgment.  
As when a ship, that flies fair under sail,  
An hidden rock escaped unawares,  
That lay in wait her wreck for to bewail;  
The mariner, yet half amazed, stares  
At perils past, and yet in doubt ne dares  
To joy at his foolhappy oversight. *Fairy Queen, b. i. cant. 6.*  
FOOLHARDINESS. *n. f.* [from *foolhardy*.] Mad rashness; courage without sense.  
A false glozing parasite would call his foolhardiness valour, and then he may go on boldly, because blindly. *South's Sermon.*  
There is a difference betwixt daring and foolhardiness: Lucan and Statius often ventured them too far, our Virgil never. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*  
FOOLHARDISE. *n. f.* [*fool* and *hardieffe*, French.] Foolhardiness; adventurousness without judgment. Obsolete.  
More huge in strength than wife in works he was,  
And reason with foolhardise over-ran;  
Stern melancholy did his courage pass,  
And was, for terror more, all arm'd in shining brags. *F. 2.*  
FOOLHARDY. *adj.* [*fool* and *hardy*.] Daring without judgment; madly adventurous; foolishly bold.  
One mother, when as her foolhardy child  
Did come too near, and with his talons play,  
Half dead through fear, her little babe reviv'd. *Fairy Queen.*  
Some would be so foolhardy as to presume to be more of the cabinet-council of God Almighty than the angels. *Hawth.*  
If any yet be so foolhardy,  
T' expose themselves to vain jeopardy;  
If they come wounded off, and lame,  
No honour's got by such a maim. *Hudibras, p. i. cant. 1.*  
FOOL'TRAP. *n. f.* [*fool* and *trap*.] A snare to catch fools in: as a flytrap.  
Betts, at the first, were fooltraps, where the wife  
Like spiders lay in ambush for the flies. *Dryden.*  
FOOLISH. *adj.* [from *fool*.]  
1. Void of understanding; weak of intellect.  
Thou foolish woman, feelest thou not our mourning? *L'Estrange, Fable 74.*  
He, of all the men that ever my foolish eyes looked upon, was the best deserving a fair lady. *Shakesp. Merchant of Venice.*  
2. Imprudent; indiscreet.  
We are come off

# FOO

Like Romans; neither foolish in our stands,  
Nor cowardly in retire. *Shakesp. Coriolanus.*  
3. Ridiculous; contemptible.  
It is a foolish thing to make a long prologue, and to be short in the story itself. *2 Mac. ii. 32.*  
Pray do not mock me;  
I am a very foolish fond old man:  
I fear I am not in my perfect mind. *Shakesp. King Lear.*  
What could the head perform alone,  
If all their friendly aids were gone?  
A foolish figure he must make;  
Do nothing else but sleep and ake. *Prior.*  
4. [In Scripture.] Wicked; sinful.  
FOOLISHLY. *adv.* [from *foolish*.] Weakly; without understanding. In Scripture, wickedly.  
Although we boast our Winter sun looks bright,  
And foolishly are glad to see it at its height;  
Yet so much sooner comes the long and gloomy night. *Swift.*  
FOOLISHNESS. *n. f.* [from *foolish*.]  
1. Folly; want of understanding.  
2. Foolish practice; actual deviation from the right.  
Foolishness being properly a man's deviation from right reason, in point of practice, must needs consist in his pitching upon such an end as is unfit to his condition, or pitching upon means unfit to the compassing of his end. *South.*  
Charm'd by their eyes, their manners I acquire,  
And shape my foolishness to their desire. *Prior.*  
FOOLSTONES. *n. f.* A plant.  
The characters are: it hath an anomalous flower, consisting of six dissimilar leaves; the five uppermost of which are so disposed as to imitate in some manner a helmet. *Miller.*  
FOOT. *n. f.* plural *feet*. [*po*, Saxon; *voet*, Dutch; *ful*, Scottish.]  
1. The part upon which we stand.  
The queen that bore thee,  
Off'n'er upon her knees than on her feet,  
Died ev'ry day she liv'd.  
His affection to the church was so notorious, that he never deferted it till both it and he were over-run and trod under foot. *Clarendon.*  
2. That by which any thing is supported in the nature of a foot.  
3. The lower part; the base.  
Yond' towers, whose wanton tops do bus the clouds,  
Must kiss their own feet. *Shakesp. Troilus and Cressida.*  
Fretting, by little and little, washes away and eats out both the tops and sides and feet of mountains. *Hakewill on Provid.*  
4. The end; the lower part.  
What dismal cries are those?  
—Nothing; a trifling sum of misery,  
New added to the foot of thy account:  
Thy wife is seiz'd by force, and born away. *Dryd. Cleomen.*  
5. The act of walking.  
Antiochus departed, weening in his pride to make the land navigable, and the sea passable by foot. *2 Mac. v. 21.*  
6. On foot. Walking; without carriage.  
Israel journeyed about six hundred thousand on foot. *Ex. xii.*  
7. A posture of action.  
The centurions and their charges distinctly billeted, already in the entertainment, and to be on foot at an hour's warning. *Shakesp. Coriolanus.*  
8. Infantry; footmen in arms. In this sense it has no plural.  
Lusias gathered threescore thousand choice men of foot, and five thousand horsemen. *1 Mac. iv. 28.*  
Himself with all his foot entered the town, his horse being quartered about it. *Clarendon, b. viii.*  
Thrice horse and foot about the fires are led,  
And thrice with loud laments they wail the dead. *Dryden.*  
9. State; character; condition.  
See on what foot we stand; a scanty shore,  
The sea behind, our enemies before. *Dryden's Æn.*  
In specifying the word Ireland, it would seem to insinuate that we are not upon the same foot with our fellow subjects in England. *Swift's Drapier's Letters.*  
What colour of excuse can be for the contempt with which we treat this part of our species, that we should not put them upon the common foot of humanity, that we should only set an insignificant fine upon the man who murders them? *Addis.*  
10. Scheme; plan; settlement.  
There is no wellwither to his country without a little hope, that in time the kingdom may be on a better foot. *Swift.*  
I ask, whether upon the foot of our constitution, as it stood in the reign of the late king James, a king of England may be deposed? *Swift.*  
11. A state of incipient existence.  
If such a tradition were at any time set on foot, it is not easy to imagine how it should at first gain entertainment; but much more difficult how it should come to be universally propagated. *Tillotson's Sermons.*  
12. It seems to have been once proverbially used for the level, the square, par.  
Were it not for this easy borrowing upon interest, men's

# FOO

necessities would draw upon them a most sudden undoing, in that they would be forced to sell their means, be it lands or goods, far under foot. *Bacon's Essays.*  
13. A certain number of syllables constituting a distinct part of a verse.  
Feet, in our English versifying, without quantity and joints, be sure signs that the verse is either born deformed, unnatural, or lame. *Ajcham's Schoolmaster.*  
Didst thou hear these verses?  
—O yes, I heard them all, and more too; for some o' them had in them more feet than the verses would bear. *Shakesp.*  
14. Motion; action.  
While other jests are something rank on foot,  
Her father hath commanded her to slip  
Away with slender to marry. *Shakesp. Mer. Wives of Windsor.*  
In the government of the world the number and variety of the ends on foot, with the secret nature of most things to which they relate, must make a distinct remark of their congruity, in some cases very difficult, and in some unattainable. *Grew.*  
15. A measure containing twelve inches.  
When it signifies measure it has often, but vitiously, foot in the plural.  
An orange, lemon, and apple, wrapt in a linnen cloth, being buried for a fortnight's space four foot deep within the earth, came forth no ways mouldy or rotten. *Bacon.*  
16. Step.  
This man's son would, every foot and anon, be taking some of his companions into the orchard. *L'Estrange.*  
To foot. *v. n.* [from the noun.]  
1. To dance; to tread wantonly; to trip.  
Lonely the vale and full of horror stood,  
Brown with the shade of a religious wood;  
The moon was up, and shot a gleamy light;  
He saw a quire of ladies in a round,  
That featly footing seem'd to skim the ground. *Dryden.*  
2. To walk; not ride; not fly.  
By this the dreadful beast drew nigh to land,  
Half flying, and half footing in his haste. *Fairy Queen.*  
Take heed, have open eye; for thieves do foot by night. *Sh.*  
The man set the boy upon the ass, and footed it himself. *L'Estrange.*  
With them a man sometimes cannot be a penitent, unless he also turns vagabond, and foots it to Jerusalem; or wanders over this or that part of the world, to visit the shrine of such or such a pretended saint. *South.*  
If you are for a merry jaunt, I'll try, for once, who can foot it farthest. *Dryden's Spanish Fryar.*  
To foot. *v. a.*  
1. To spurn; to kick.  
You, that did void your rheum upon my beard, and foot me as you spurn a stranger cur over your threshold. *Shakesp. King Lear.*  
2. To settle; to begin to fix.  
What confederacy have you with the traitors  
Late footed in the kingdom? *Shakesp. King Lear.*  
3. To tread.  
Saint Withold footed thrice the wold:  
He met the night-mare, and her name told;  
Bid her alight, and her troth plight,  
And aroynt thee, witch, aroynt thee right. *Shak. K. Lear.*  
There haply by the ruddy damsel seen,  
Or shepherd boy, they featly foot the green. *Tickell.*  
FOOTBALL. *n. f.* [*foot* and *ball*.] A ball commonly made of a blown bladder cased with leather, driven by the foot.  
Am I so round with you as you with me,  
That like a football you do spurn me thus? *Shakesp.*  
Such a Winter-piece should be beautified with all manner of works and exercises of Winter; as footballs, felling of wood, and sliding upon the ice. *Peascham.*  
As when a sort of lusty shepherds try  
Their force at football, care of victory  
Makes them salute so rudely, breast to breast,  
That their encounter seems too rough for jest. *Waller.*  
One rolls along a football to his foes,  
One with a broken truncheon deals his blows. *Dryden.*  
He was sensible the common football was a very imperfect imitation of that exercise. *Arbutnot and Pope's Mart. Scribb.*  
FOOTBOY. *n. f.* [*foot* and *boy*.] A low menial; an attendant in livery.  
Was it discretion, lords, to let this man,  
This honest man, wait like a lowly footboy  
At chamber-door? *Shakesp. Henry VIII.*  
Though I had no body to assist but a footboy, yet I made shift to try a pretty number of things. *Boyle on Colours.*  
Whenever he imagines advantage will redound to one of his footboys by oppression of me, he never disputes it. *Swift.*  
FOOTBRIDGE. *n. f.* [*foot* and *bridge*.] A bridge on which passengers walk; a narrow bridge.  
Palemon's shepherd, fearing the footbridge was not strong enough, loaded it so long, till he broke that which would have born a bigger burden. *Sidney.*  
FOOTCLOATH. *n. f.* [*foot* and *cloth*.] A sumpter cloth.  
Three